



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DUNMOW

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1959

together with the

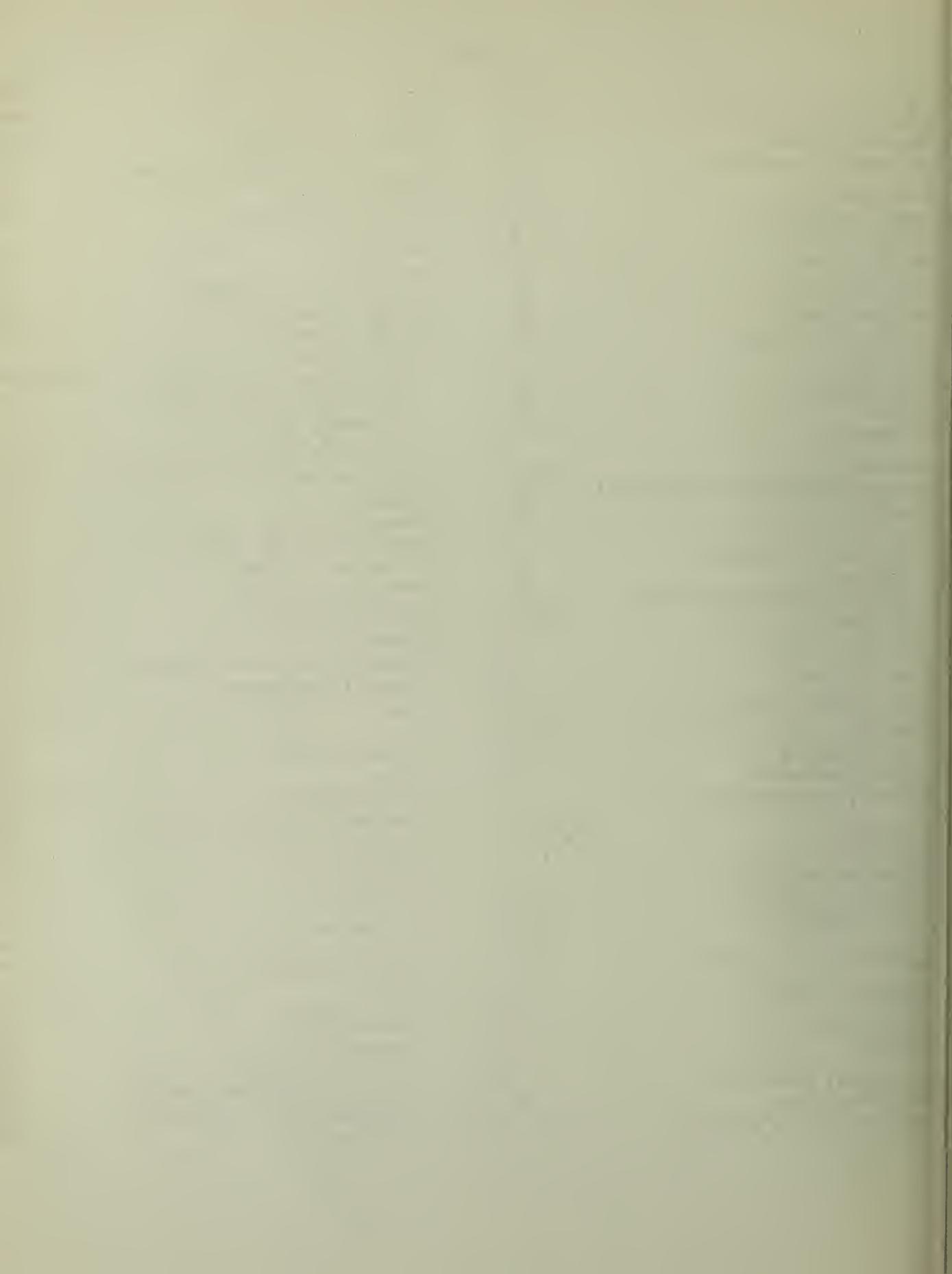
REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DUNMOW

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Mrs. M.R. Davey, Vice-Chairman

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Mrs. L. Burton	H. Maynard, Esq.
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Mrs. I.M. Herbert	J. Winder, Esq.
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E.C. Howard, Esq.	E.F. Wright, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

C.R.C.RAINSFORD, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

H.B.GARDNER, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.H. and P.H.I.E.B.
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

R.P.MAY, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.H. and P.H.I.E.B.
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

D.J.GWYNN, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.H. and P.H.I.E.B.
Certificated Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Chief Clerk:

G.H.MASON

Clerk/Typist:

Mrs. D.E.SANDERS

The Chief Public Health Inspector is also Surveyor to the
Council.

Public Health Offices,
Town Hall,
Braintree.

May, 1960.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the district for 1959.

I have to thank Dr. Miller Wood for supplying certain information with regard to the health services run by the Essex County Council.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population The estimated 1959 population is 20,820 an increase of 250 on 1958.

Births These were 341 live births, 22 fewer than last year and the corrected birth rate of 16.6 per 1,000 population is almost identical to that for England and Wales at 16.5.

Deaths There were 201 deaths and the corrected death rate of 9.02 per 1,000 population is appreciably lower than that of England and Wales at 11.6.

The Maternal mortality figure is nil.

There were 5 still births and 10 infant deaths. The infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births is 28.9 compared with 23.32 in 1958.

The causes of infant deaths were:- Congenital diseases 5, intracranial haemorrhage 2, pneumonia 2 and asphyxia 1.

Turning to the deaths from all causes we find 108 deaths were from cardio vascular disease and 48 from malignant disease. There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The usual tables are given showing the incidence, age distribution, locality and month by month incidence of notifiable infectious diseases. I would draw your attention to table B from which you can see at a glance the comparative incidence over the past 5 years.

If statistically minded, you may turn up table B in my 1955 report which takes you back to 1950.

In 1959 - 353 cases of infectious diseases were notified. The majority were measles with 319. The characteristic biennial feature of measles epidemics is not shown in the overall figures but the break down village by village makes it clear that a place having a high incidence in one year may expect a low one in the following year. For example Thaxted had 121 cases in 1957 and only 2 in 1958 and 4 in 1959. Great Dunmow had 196 in 1958 and only 37 in 1959 while in 1959 Felsted who had only 5 in 1958 topped the list with 118.

Satisfactory feature of these returns are the nil figures for Poliomyelitis and Diphtheria and the low figure for Tuberculosis and Whooping Cough.

IMMUNISATION

I am glad to see a small increase in the number of infants and children immunised against diphtheria, its importance cannot be over emphasized.

You will see that in round figures 2,000 1st and 2,000 2nd anti poliomyelitis injections were given in 1959 and nearly 3,000 3rd injections. These were done by General Practitioners and Essex County Council doctors. Although it is only a matter of seconds to give an injection, the organisation,

the sterilization of needles and syringes and the keeping of records is time consuming and I would like to pay a tribute to all concerned for the excellent work done.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

As usual your Chief Public Health Inspector has surveyed in some detail this field.

The story is one of considerable progress with regard to provision of sewerage installations, but a hold up, albeit a temporary one, in housing.

No medical officer likes to report a nil return for houses completed by the Council, but at least a good start has been made on building 56 bungalows.

It is probably true to say that the back of the housing problem has been broken but there is still a need for more council houses, especially bungalows.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. Section 47.

It was not necessary to move anyone under the provision of this act.

It is as always a pleasure to record my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support and to Mr. Gardner and other officers of the Council for their help and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	72,836
Population (Registrar-General's estimate mid-1959)	...	20,820
Number of houses according to rate books (of which 238 were empty on 10th October)	...	6,640
Rateable value	...	£204,125
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£815
Number of marriages during the year	...	120

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	336	195	141
Illegitimate	5	3	2
Total live births -	341		

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	16.4
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	...	1.46
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 1.01	...	16.6
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population	...	16.5

Still Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	5	4	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	14.5
Total live and still births - 346		
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales	...	20.7

Infant Deaths

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths of infants under 1 year			
Legitimate	10	5	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total infant deaths - 10			

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	28.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	29.76
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	26.39
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	23.46
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	37.57
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	...	22.0

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	Nil

Deaths

	Total	Male	Female
	201	115	86

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	9.7
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.93	...	...	9.02
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	...	...	11.6

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1959

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar-General and the Classification is given under the thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

		Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	-
6.	Meningococcal infection	...	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	-
8.	Measles	...	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	6
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	16
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	2
16.	Diabetes	...	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	13
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	18
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	2
20.	Other heart disease	...	10
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	5
22.	Influenza	...	2
23.	Pneumonia	...	4
24.	Bronchitis	...	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	7
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	-
34.	All other accidents	...	1
35.	Suicide	...	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	-
All Causes		115	86

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Under the control of the Essex County Council:-

(i) Clinics were held at the following Centres during the year:-

<u>Attendances</u>			
GREAT DUNMOW - Essex County Health Services Clinic, New Street.			
Child Welfare	Every Friday	2 p.m.	1,088
Ante-Natal and Women's Welfare	1st Thursday	10 a.m.	65
Minor Ailments Clinic	2nd, 4th & 5th Mondays	9.30 a.m.	161
Dental Clinic	Mon. Tues. & Wed. all day.	10 a.m.	1,624
Speech Therapy	Every Wednesday	10 a.m.	497
FELSTED - Memorial Hall			
Child Welfare	2nd Tuesday	2 p.m.	423
GREAT EASTON - Village Hall			
Child Welfare	Last Friday	2 p.m.	231
HATFIELD HEATH - Trinity Hall			
Child Welfare	4th Tuesday	2 p.m.	431
HIGH EASTER - Village Hall			
Child Welfare	2nd Wednesday	2 p.m.	166
HIGH RODING - Women's Institute			
Weighing Centre	1st Thursday	2 p.m.	142
MARGARET RODING - The Windmill, Leaden Roding.			
Child Welfare	4th Wednesday	2.15 p.m.	260
STEBBING - Congregational Schoolroom			
Child Welfare	2nd Friday	2 p.m.	337
TAKELEY - Congregational Church			
Child Welfare	2nd Monday	2 p.m.	260
THAXTED - Church Hall			
Child Welfare	1st Friday	2 p.m.	347

(ii) Home Help Service:-

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office,
75, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

(iii) Ambulance Service:-

The Ambulance Station is situated in New Street, Dunmow. A full
24 hour cover is provided.

(b) Under the control of the North-East Metropolitan

Regional Hospital Board:-

(i) Chest Clinics:-

These are held at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree; Herts and
Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford; and Saffron Walden
General Hospital, and cater for the needs of the Dunmow population.

TABLE A

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

DISEASES	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Dysentery	3	-	-
Encephalitis	- - ST -	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-
Measles	319	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Pneumonia	10	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	1	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	5	1	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	3	2	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	1	-
Whooping Cough	7 - ST -	-	-
Totals:	353	7	-

TABLE B

DISEASES	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	8	1	6	3
Encephalitis	1	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	3	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	1	-	1	-
Food Poisoning	6	2	2	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	7	17	5	5	-
Measles	113	42	284	377	319
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia	12	11	22	16	10
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	+	1	5
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	4	-	3	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	1	2	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	6	7	3	5
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	14	6	10	11	3
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	-	2	2	1	1
Whooping Cough	22	25	26	52	7
Totals:	185	122	365	473	353

TABLE C
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

DISEASE	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over	Age unknown
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	319	3	19	28	30	34	157	32	6	2	-	-	-	8
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	10	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	2	-	2	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	5	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	7	-	-	-	-	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
 Totals:	 353	 3	 19	 28	 31	 37	 164	 36	 10	 7	 3	 3	 2	 10

TABLE D

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1959.

DISEASE

	Total Notified																										
Disease	Aythorpe Roding	Little Bardfield	Barnston	Broxted	Great Canfield	Little Canfield	Chickney	Great Dunmow	Little Dunmow	Great Easton	Little Easton	Felsted	Great Hallingbury	Little Hallingbury	Hatfield Broad Oak	High Easter	Hatfield Heath	High Roding	Leaden Roding	Lindsell	Margaret Roding	Stebbing	Takeley	Thaxted	Tilty	White Roding	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Dysentery	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Measles	319	2	-	1	3	12	3	-	37	6	-	2	118	18	3	5	14	-	15	22	2	4	28	3	4	-	17
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Scarlet Fever	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	353	2	1	1	3	12	3	-	42	7	-	3	119	18	8	8	17	2	16	26	2	4	33	3	6	-	17

TABLE E
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

DISEASE	Total notified	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	319	2	34	76	32	108	38	24	4	-	-	1	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	10	1	3	-	-	3	-	2	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	3	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	7	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Totals:	353	4	41	78	34	112	38	26	7	2	7	1	3

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during the year.				Children who were given a reinforcing injection during the year.			
By General Practitioners		By County Staff		By General Practitioners		By County Staff	
<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
(a) 223	(a) 216	44	30	29	22	56	3
Totals:		1959 - 267		Totals:	1959 - 85		
		1958 - 246		1958 - 25			

IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

Children who completed a full course of immunisation under the County Scheme.				Records of combined diphtheria pertussis immunisation received.		
By General Practitioners		By County Staff		<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
<u>1959</u> 29	<u>1958</u> 14	<u>1959</u> 17	<u>1958</u> 14	(b) 181	(b) 206	
Reinforcing injections	<u>1959</u> -	<u>1958</u> 1	<u>1959</u> -	<u>1958</u> -	<u>1959</u> 12	<u>1958</u> 15

Figure (b) is included in (a).

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
Number vaccinated during the year	220	222
Number re-vaccinated during the year	68	78

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
Number of 1st injections given during the year	2086	1979
Number of 2nd injections given during the year	1995	1934
Number of 3rd injections given during the year	2967	

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Dunmow.

May, 1960

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my twenty-fourth annual report, which sets out the work of the department during 1959.

The pride of place in the year's work goes to sewerage. The schemes in Little Hallingbury; Takeley; Barnston; and Bannister Green, Felsted, were completed. Good progress was made at Great Easton Sewage Works and the revised scheme for Duck Street and Mill End, Little Easton, was approved and work was in progress. The contracts for High Easter, High Roding and White Roding, and for the extensions in Duton Hill and Great Easton, were commenced and work was in progress at the end of the year. A tender had been accepted for the scheme for Causeway End and Willows Green, Felsted, and tenders were invited for the Hatfield Heath and Hatfield Broad Oak scheme. Authority had been given by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for tenders to be invited for the Little Hallingbury extensions, and the new Barnston scheme was submitted to the Ministry for approval in principle.

No further progress was made in the proposed re-grouping of water undertakings and a final scheme of water main laying was completed during the year comprising 6 miles of mains. The amount of water pumped during the year increased by 8,000,000 gallons to 210,000,000 gallons.

For the first time since the War no Council Houses were built during the year but by the end of the year, 32 of the contract for 56 bungalows were under construction. The total of private houses built (76) equalled the total for 1958

which was the highest for several years. In addition to this, 71 private houses were under construction at the end of the year; 160 private houses had plans approved; and site permissions had been granted for a further 300 private dwellings. The development of private housing estates seems likely to continue for some time to come.

Since 1945, a total of 1,566 new dwellings have been erected in the District, including Council houses, Private houses and conversions.

The caravan population decreased a little to 466 who were living in 205 caravans in the district - the majority of these are on the three sites in Takeley adjoining Stansted Airport.

The meat inspection duties of the department eased very slightly during the year, the total number of carcases inspected being 59,200 as against 68,000 during 1958. Nevertheless this work occupies much of the time of your Public Health Inspectors to ensure that 100% inspection of all meat killed in the District is maintained. As in previous years, the bulk of the meat is for use outside the District.

The Council's slum clearance programme continued and a further 28 unfit properties were demolished.

The main change during the year concerned refuse collection. After many years with a kerb-side collection, on 1st May, 1959, a back-door collection was started fortnightly in all parts of the district. Previously, Great Dunmow, Thaxted and Felsted, out of the 25 parishes in the district, had been collected weekly. A foreman was appointed and apart from a few complaints, the new scheme proved to be popular with the majority of residents who no longer had to carry heavy bins to the road-side. In fact, up to the end of the year, only 8 complaints had been received compared with over 100 during the previous period

before the scheme started. At the same time, to assist the work at the refuse tip a Chaseside shovel was purchased. The work was done by one man who also worked part-time on collection.

The decline in the number of bakehouses continues as the sale of wrapped and sliced bread increases. 20 years ago there was a bakehouse in nearly every village, now there are only 9 in the whole district.

No change in staff occurred during the year.

Details of the work carried out are set out in the following pages and I should like, in conclusion, to thank the Council for their support and the staff for their loyalty and assistance during the year.

I remain, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. B. GARDNER

Chief Public Health Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER UNDERTAKING

The water supplies in the District were adequate and were obtained from the Council's boreholes at Mill Lane, Great Dunmow, Borough Bridge, Thaxted; and Armitage Bridge, Thaxted. The parishes of Hatfield Broad Oak, Great Hallingbury and Little Hallingbury were supplied by the Herts and Essex Water Company.

133 samples of the water were taken during the year for chemical and bacteriological examination and these were found to be satisfactory with the exception of those taken from Armitage Bridge borehole.

During 1959 the Analyst reported on abnormal results being obtained in samples of water from Armitage Bridge borehole and stated that Aerogenes Type I had been found in the water on the raw supply side of Thaxted Waterworks. He said that this type of bacteria was usually associated with hemp joints in pipes or at tap unions and suggested that the actual tap from which the samples were being taken might be at fault. Following this the tap was replaced with a newer type but there continued to be the presence of Aerogenes Type I in the samples sent to him. The supply pipe from the borehole as far as Thaxted Waterworks was tapped at 3 points, including one tapping immediately at the head of the bore, with a view to isolating a particular section where trouble might be occurring. Subsequent sampling showed that Aerogenes Type I were not present in any section until that just before entry into the Waterworks. Several other lines of investigation were also made but without any positive results and it still seemed as though the tap from which the samples were being taken was at fault. This particular tap was eventually removed and since that time no further abnormal results have occurred. This particular type of bacteria was only isolated on the raw water supply side of the Waterworks and at no time did they occur once the water had been chlorinated and filtrated.

Copies of reports on four of these samples by the Counties Public Health Laboratories appear on the following pages:-

Dunmow Pumping Station Supply

Tap - Dunmow Waterworks - deep borehole.

29.1.59

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance:	Clear and bright.	Turbidity:	Nil
Colour:	Nil	Odour:	Nil
pH:	7.3	Free Carbon Dioxide:	28
Electric Conductivity:	670	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C.	450
Chlorine present as Chloride:	39	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	300
Hardness: Total	325	Carbonate: 300	Non-carbonate: 25
Nitrate Nitrogen:	0.0	Nitrite Nitrogen:	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ⁺ :	0.10	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.00
Albuminoid Nitrogen ⁺ :	0.0	Residual Chlorine:	0.14
Metals: Iron, Zinc, Copper and Lead:		absent.	

⁺ to convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results

No. of colonies developing on Agar:	1 day at 37°C. 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 0 per ml.	3 days at 20-22°C. - per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coliform reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	... ml.	... ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

10th February, 1959

Counties Public Health Laboratories.

Thaxted Pumping Station (Armitage Bridge) Supply

Tap on public supply line at Thaxted
Waterworks (Armitage Bridge water only)

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance:	Clear and bright.	Turbidity:	Nil
Colour:	4	Odour:	Nil
pH:	7.1	Free Carbon Dioxide:	40
Electric Conductivity:	700	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C.	470
Chlorine present as Chloride:	29	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	285
Hardness: Total	390	Carbonate:	285
Nitrate Nitrogen:	0.0	Non-carbonate:	105
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ⁺ :	0.071	Nitrite Nitrogen:	absent
Albuminoid Nitrogen ⁺ :	0.000	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.15
Metals: Iron:	0.30	Residual Chlorine:	0.05
Zinc, Copper and Lead	-	- absent.	

⁺ to convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results

No. of colonies developing on Agar:	1 day at 37°C. 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 0 per ml.	3 days at 20-22°C. - per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coliform reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	... ml.	... ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes, although softening would be considered advantageous.

13th January, 1960

Counties Public Health Laboratories.

Thaxted Pumping Station (Borough Bridge) Supply

Tap on public supply line, Thaxted Waterworks (Filtered -
Borough Bridge only)

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance:	Clear and bright.	Turbidity:	Nil
Colour:	3	Odour:	Nil
pH:	7.0	Free Carbon Dioxide:	50
Electric Conductivity:	740	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	295
Chlorine present as Chloride:	33	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C:	495
Hardness: Total	400	Carbonate:	295
Nitrate Nitrogen:	0.0	Non-carbonate:	105
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ⁺ :	0.091	Nitrite Nitrogen:	less than 0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen ⁺ :	0.000	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.40
Metals: Iron:	0.26	Residual Chlorine:	absent
Zinc, Copper and Lead	-		

⁺ to convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results

No. of colonies developing on Agar	1 day at 37°C. 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 1 per ml.	3 days at 20-22°C. - per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coliform reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	... ml.	... ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is very hard in character but contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes; on account of its hardness softening would be advantageous.

January, 1960

Counties Public Health Laboratories.

Herts and Essex Water Company Supply

Tap over sink, "Shouldersticks", Little Hallingbury.

17.12.59

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance:	Bright with a few ferruginous mineral particles.	Turbidity:	less than 3
Colour:	7	Odour:	Nil
pH:	7.3	Free Carbon Dioxide:	25
Electric Conductivity:	675	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C.	450
Chlorine present as Chloride:	30	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate:	300
Hardness: Total	355	Carbonate:	300
Nitrate Nitrogen:	0.3	Nitrite Nitrogen:	absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ⁺ :	0.14	Oxygen Absorbed:	0.20
Albuminoid Nitrogen ⁺ :	0.000	Residual Chlorine:	absent
Metals: Iron:	0.40	Zinc, Copper and Lead	- absent.

⁺ to convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results

No. of colonies developing on Agar	1 day at 37°C. 0 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 7 per ml.	3 days at 20-22°C. - per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
Presumptive Coliform reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type I)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	... ml.	... ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

30th December, 1959

Counties Public Health Laboratories.

Fluoride

The Fluoride content of the water supplied from the Council's pumping stations is as follows:-

Thaxted - 0.5 parts per million. Dunmow - 1.0 part per million.

Main water supplies

On the following page will be found a schedule showing by parishes the houses and estimated population which have main water supplies.

POPULATION IN EACH PARISH ON MAIN SUPPLY

Parish	No. of houses	Estimated Population (mid-59)	No. of houses on main supply	Estimated Population on main supply
Aythorpe Roding	62	198	57	181
Little Bardfield	84	237	61	183
Barnston	97	314	91	273
Broxted	182	542	168	504
Great Canfield	129	396	119	357
Little Canfield	107	356	98	294
Chickney	11	39	-	-
Great Dunmow	1328	3936	1265	3795
Little Dunmow	127	390	103	309
Great Easton	252	721	230	690
Little Easton	127	360	114	342
Felsted	665	2200	604	2012
Great Hallingbury	311	1018	241	773
Little Hallingbury	331	1086	300	970
Hatfield Broad Oak	693	2167	646	1988
High Easter	192	575	167	501
High Roding	117	362	110	330
Leaden Roding	108	345	106	339
Lindsell	76	218	73	209
Margaret Roding	66	203	64	197
Stebbing	347	1111	296	961
Takeley	416	1643	406	1633
Thaxted	675	1975	650	1905
Tilty	23	71	13	39
White Roding	114	357	105	315
Totals:	6640	20820	6087	19100

Waterworks Undertaking

Quantities of Water Pumped:

Dunmow Pumping Station	...	25,622,000 gallons
Thaxted Pumping Station	...	184,461,000 gallons
		<u>210,083,000 gallons</u>

Water Consumption:

The water consumption for the last eleven years has been as follows:-

	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Consumption per day - gallons</u>
<u>1949</u>		
Total consumption	147,106,700	403,416
Domestic	101,329,700	277,615
Metered	45,777,000	125,801
<u>1950</u>		
Total Consumption	150,402,700	412,496
Domestic	99,225,700	271,851
Metered	51,177,000	147,645
<u>1951</u>		
Total Consumption	165,170,300	452,574
Domestic	117,659,300	322,354
Metered	47,511,000	130,220
<u>1952</u>		
Total Consumption	172,226,600	471,518
Domestic	128,463,600	351,924
Metered	43,763,000	119,594
<u>1953</u>		
Total Consumption	156,276,144	428,153
Domestic	112,151,144	307,263
Metered	44,125,000	120,890
<u>1954</u>		
Total Consumption	180,274,900	496,393
Domestic	136,916,900	375,114
Metered	43,358,000	121,279
<u>1955</u>		
Total Consumption	197,463,000	541,000
Domestic	151,677,000	416,000
Metered	45,786,000	125,000

	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Consumption per day - gallons</u>
<u>1956</u>		
Total Consumption	203,292,000	555,697
Domestic	149,288,000	408,080
Metered	54,004,000	147,617
<u>1957</u>		
Total Consumption	209,777,000	574,730
Domestic	157,932,000	432,690
Metered	51,845,000	142,040
<u>1958</u>		
Total Consumption	201,879,000	553,093
Domestic	156,147,000	427,800
Metered	45,732,000	125,293
<u>1959</u>		
Total Consumption	210,083,000	575,569
Domestic	165,393,000	453,131
Metered	44,690,000	122,438

Repairs and connections:

No. of new domestic connections to mains	...	81
No. of new metered supplies	...	16
No. of repaired services	...	88
No. of repaired mains	...	57

Mains extensions:

Extensions were made to the Council's water mains during the year as under:-

380 yards of 3" main	-	Jubilee Court, Great Dunmow.
227 yards of 3" main	-	Hawthorn Close and Elm Close, Takeley.

Further extensions were made as set out under Contract P.L.20 in the paragraph on the comprehensive water scheme.

Dunmow and Thaxted Pumping Stations

The Thaxted station worked satisfactorily throughout the year and it was not necessary to overhaul No.1. Pump although complete spares were held ready for this work.

At Dunmow, the Sumo pump became unuseable and the stand-by pump, taken from Armitage Bridge borehole, was installed in its place. A report on the Sumo pump revealed that it was beyond repair.

Water Carting

It was necessary to cart water to 5 properties during the year where wells failed owing to the very dry summer.

Comprehensive Post-War Water Scheme

A final scheme of main laying was carried out during the year to complete the Council's post-war comprehensive scheme. Details of this Contract, P.L.20, are as follows:-

Halfway House, Dunmow, to High Roding.	2310 yards 4" main.
Newhouse Farm, Dunmow.	170 yards 4" main.
Bacon End, Great Canfield.	560 yards 3" main.
Axe and Compasses, Aythorpe Roding, to Cammas Hall, White Roding.	3490 yards 4" main.
Cock Green to Hollow Road, Felsted.	1785 yards 4" main.
Chelmsford Road to Gatehouse Farm, Dunmow.	360 yards 4" main.
Stones Farm to New Acres, Stebbing.	1270 yards 3" main.
High Street, Dunmow.	450 yards 6" main.

The proposed length from Rolfe's to Lower Harveys, High Easter, was deleted from the contract.

Re-grouping of Water Undertakings

No further progress was made during the year with regard to the proposed re-grouping of water undertakings in North Essex but arrangements were being made for a meeting of Financial Officers of the authorities concerned to be held early in 1960.

Public Swimming Baths

There are no public swimming baths in the District.

Herts and Essex Water Company

During the year the Company were proceeding with the laying of the following water mains in this District:-

800 yards 3" main - Toms by the Wood, Hatfield Broad Oak.
120 yards 3" main - Fryars Lane, Hatfield Heath.

Rainfall

The rainfall as recorded at Thaxted Waterworks during the year is given below:-

		<u>inches</u>
January	...	2.22
February	...	Nil
March	...	1.91
April	...	2.41
May	...	0.31
June	...	0.38
July	...	2.02
August	...	0.55
September	...	0.05
October	...	1.79
November	...	1.95
December	...	4.08 17.67 inches

The heaviest fall was 0.78 inches on 7th December.

The longest period without rain was the 38 days from 15th August to 21st September.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Pollution of Streams

Now that a number of schemes have been completed the pollution of the River Chelmer, the Barnston Brook and the Pincey Brook, has largely ceased.

Extensions of Sewers

The following extension was made to the Council's sewer network during the year in addition to those made under contracts in progress, reports on which appear in subsequent paragraphs:-

The Moors, Little Dunmow - 385 yards of 4" sewer.

Connection to Sewers

During the year 26 properties were connected to the Council's sewers, other than in contracts in progress:-

Felsted	4	Hatfield Heath	2
Great Dunmow	17	Thaxted	2
		Little Dunmow	1

Details of connections made under the various contracts will be given in a subsequent report.

Sewage Works

All the various sewage disposal works; sewage treatment plants and sewage pumping stations worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The Thaxted Sewage Disposal Works were abandoned and arrangements were in hand for the sale of the site.

Great Dunmow Sewerage

The investigation into the sewerage system of Great Dunmow continued during the year and the possibility of acquiring additional land for the sewage works was investigated.

Hatfield Heath Sewage Works

The Council have instructed their Engineers to carry out an investigation of these works to see what extensions will be required, if any, to take additional flows. Their report is expected early in 1960.

Annual Inspection of Undertakings

All the works were considered to be properly managed for the purposes of the Essex County Council's Grants Scheme, and the County Council in their letter dated 8th June, 1959, stated:-

"It was pleasing to note the progress which your Council continue to make, particularly upon the provision of sewerage and sewage disposal schemes."

Comprehensive Post-War Sewerage Scheme

Work proceeded during the year and I give below details of the progress made in each parish.

In their letter dated 1st January, 1959, the Essex River Board stated:-

"I can say that the Pollution Prevention and Fisheries Committee of the Board was pleased to learn of the very satisfactory progress being made by your Council towards execution of these schemes."

Contract 9 - Upper Chelmer Valley Scheme

This scheme comprising the valley sewer from the existing sewage works at Thaxted to Bridgefoot, Great Easton; the construction of a pumping station at Bridgefoot; the sewerage of parts of Monk Street; Duton Hill and Great Easton, and the laying of a rising main from the new pumping station to the ex-R.A.F. sewage works at Great Easton, was finally brought into use early in the year.

Contract 10 - Barnston; Bannister Green, Felsted; and Felsted Sewage Works

This combined scheme comprising the sewerage of Barnston village and the construction of a sewage disposal works; the extension of the sewer to serve

Bannister Green, Felsted; and the electrification of Felsted Sewage Disposal Works; and construction of an access road, was completed and brought into use early in the year.

Contract 11 - Takeley and Little Hallingbury

This scheme comprising the sewerage of the two villages of Takeley and Little Hallingbury and the construction of sewage disposal works and pumping stations in both parishes was completed by the end of the year and brought into use apart from a few minor items which were being attended to in the maintenance period.

Contract 12 - Great Easton Sewage Disposal Works, and Duck Street, Little Easton

This scheme comprises the sewerage of Duck Street and Mill End, Little Easton; the erection of sewage pumping stations at Duck Street and Elmbridge Mill; the laying of a rising main to Great Easton Sewage Disposal Works; and the repair, extension and modernisation of the Great Easton Sewage Disposal Works. The contract sum is £67,583 and the contractors are Bosworth & Wakeford Ltd. At the end of the year sewer laying at Duck Street was virtually complete; the Elmbridge Mill pumping station was well advanced; the rising main had been commenced; and at the Great Easton Sewage Disposal Works, construction of the new biological filter was nearing completion.

Contract 13 - High Roding, White Roding, and High Easter

Work commenced on 1st June, 1959, on this scheme which comprises the sewerage of the three villages and the construction of sewage disposal works and sewage pumping stations in each village. The tender sum is £97,188 and the contractors are Biggs, Wall & Co. Ltd. At the end of the year sewer laying was continuing in High Roding and a start had been made on the works at High Easter.

Contract 14 - Willows Green and Causeway End, Felsted

Tenders were received for this contract during the year which comprises the sewerering of Willows Green and the construction of a sewage disposal works; and the sewerering of Causeway End with a gravity sewer to the existing disposal works at Felsted. The tender of Concrete Piling Ltd. in the sum of £35,481 was approved and it was expected that work would commence in January, 1960.

Contract 15 - Great Easton and Duton Hill extensions

This scheme started on 14th September, 1959, and comprises the laying of some 5,000 yards of 6" sewer in the villages of Great Easton and Duton Hill, to connect to the Valley sewer constructed under Contract No. 9. The contractors are C. de Vries & Co. Ltd., and the tender sum is £28,472. By the end of the year sewer laying was continuing in fields at Great Easton but work at Duton Hill had ceased temporarily.

Contract 16 - Hatfield Broad Oak and Hatfield Heath

Tenders were invited for this scheme which comprises the sewerering of Chelmsford Road, Hatfield Heath; the erection of a pumping station at Stonebridge Hatfield Heath; the abandoning of the existing works at Hatfield Broad Oak; the pumping of the whole flow to the existing Hatfield Heath works; and the extension of those works. These were due to be opened early in January, 1960.

Contract 17 - Little Hallingbury extensions

Tenders are to be invited early in 1960 for this scheme which comprises the sewerering of the Wrights Green area and the extension of the existing sewage disposal works. The estimated cost of the scheme is £28,000.

Barnston extensions

In accordance with your instructions, your Engineers prepared a scheme

to sewer the High Easter Road area and to extend the sewage treatment works, at an estimated cost of £10,000. This scheme had been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval at the end of the year.

Broxted and Little Canfield

It is hoped that tenders for these two schemes will be invited during the summer of 1960.

Leaden Roding, Margaret Roding and Aythorpe Roding

The schemes for these villages are planned for 1961/3 and sites for disposal works have been acquired in Leaden Roding and Margaret Roding.

Lindsell, Little Bardfield and Great Hallingbury

No detailed survey has yet been made for the schemes for these three villages which are planned for 1962/4.

Construction Programme Summary

I give below a summary of the above proposals:-

<u>Contract No.</u>	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Year/s in which work is proposed to be executed</u>
12	Great Easton and Duck Street	1958/60
13	High Easter; High Roding; White Roding	1959/60
14	Willows Green and Causeway End	1960/61
15	Great Easton and Duton Hill extensions	1959/60
16	Hatfield Heath and Hatfield Broad Oak	1960/61
17	Little Hallingbury extensions	1960/61
	Barnston extensions	
	Great Dunmow	1960/61
	Broxted and Little Canfield	1961/63
	Leaden Roding, Margaret Roding, Aythorpe Roding	1961/63
	Lindsell and Little Bardfield	1962/63
	Great Hallingbury	1963/64

Trade Waste effluents

An agreement was negotiated during the year with George Lee & Co. Ltd. of Thaxted for the reception of trade waste from the Sweet Factory into the Council's sewers.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council's system of collecting household refuse was re-organised as from 1st May, 1959, and the collection is now from the back door instead of the kerbside as hitherto. The collection is fortnightly throughout the district whereas previously Great Dunmow, Thaxted and Felsted were collected weekly.

The work is supervised by a foreman who has a crew of 8 men and 4 refuse collecting vehicles. One of the men works part-time at the Refuse Tip. Some 10,000 yards of refuse were collected during the year.

Since the re-organisation, the number of complaints received has fallen to almost nil, and the new scheme appears to be working very satisfactorily.

Tipping took place in the disused gravel pits at Merks Hill, Great Dunmow, under the terms of a lease negotiated with the owner of the farm. A Chaseside Shovel was purchased and one man worked part-time at the tip covering the refuse with earth as necessary. Earth was acquired and carted from Felsted Beet Sugar Factory, as required.

Salvage

The collection of waste paper was continued during the year and baling was carried out in the garage in the Council Yard. The amount collected, 129 tons 1 cwt, again showed an increase over the previous year. The value of the paper collected amounted to £923.13.2. All restrictions on the sending of

newspapers to the Mills were lifted during the year.

Scrap metal; rags and gunny to the value of £15.0.0. were also collected and sold during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Visits and Inspections

The Council's Public Health Inspectors made 5,096 visits and inspections in the course of the year. Details of these are given below:-

Complaints received and investigated	...	259
Inspections under Housing Acts	...	344
Housing applications verified	...	23
Housing applications verified for other Authorities	...	16
Inspections under Public Health Acts	...	1156
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	181
Schools	...	12
Offensive Accumulations	...	70
Water supplies	...	133
Drainage	...	170
Sewage Disposal	...	132
Cesspools, Septic Tanks and Pail Closets	...	119
Ditches	...	5
Refuse Disposal	...	53
Infectious Disease Prevention	...	38
Factories and Workshops	...	61
Shops	...	78

Bakehouses	...	21
Slaughterhouses and Knackers' Yards	...	1518
Other Meat and Food Visits	...	136
Cafes and Restaurants	...	18
Dairies	...	29
Hotels and Public Houses	...	27
Rodent Control visits and re-visits	...	351
Petroleum Acts	...	62
Improvement Grants	...	71
Atmospheric Pollution	...	1
Certificates of Disrepair	...	5
Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods)	...	6
Farms	...	1

Nuisances detected and Notices served

Nuisances detected	...	204
Informal notices served	...	28
Notices outstanding 1st January, 1959	...	58
Notices outstanding 31st December, 1959	...	30
Statutory Notices served	...	2
Legal Proceedings	...	Nil

HOUSING

New Building

New building during 1959 was as follows:-

Number of Council houses completed	...	Nil
Number of Private houses completed	...	76
Number of houses built by other authorities	...	1
Number of Council houses under construction at end of year	...	32
Number of Council houses approved but not commenced at end of year	...	24
Number of Private houses under construction at end of year	...	71
Number of Private houses with plans approved but not commenced at end of year	...	160
Number of conversions completed	...	4
Number of conversions in progress at end of year	...	2

Total new building since the War

The total number of houses built in the District since the War is:-

Council houses	...	804
Housing Associations	...	12
Private houses	...	608
Essex County Council	...	22
Conversions	...	116
		<u>1,562</u>

Council houses

The total number of houses owned by the Council at the end of the year was:-

Pre-War houses	...	672
Cottages purchased post-war	...	18
Post-War houses	...	799
		<u>1,489</u>

10 houses have been sold to tenants (5 pre-war houses and 5 post-war houses).

Private Building

The number of private houses built during 1959, 76, equalled the highest for any year since the war.

The number of planning applications made during the year was 431.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, and House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Grants

During the year, discretionary grants for 68 private dwellings were approved totalling £17,018.0.0., and standard grants were approved for 18 dwellings for the maximum of £2,205.0.0.

Agricultural dwellings

During the year, one grant was approved for the erection of a private dwelling for an agricultural worker.

Housing Applications

There were 323 applications for Council houses at 31st December, 1959. During the year there were 49 re-lettings.

Requisitioned Properties

The remaining two properties held by the Council were de-requisitioned during the year.

Housing Programme

A contract for the erection of 56 one-bedroom bungalows was let during the year and a start had been made, but unfortunately progress was slow owing to delays in delivery of bricks. A further programme for 64 one-bedroom bungalows for 1960 was in course of preparation.

It is the Council's intention to move tenants from the under-occupied three-bedroom houses to these new bungalows and so make better use of their housing accommodation.

Housing Act, 1957 - Slum Clearance Programme

Good progress continued on the Council's slum clearance proposals.

During the year 28 unfit houses were demolished and by 31st December, 1959, only 13 condemned dwellings remained to be pulled down.

A further report is being prepared on this subject for submission to the Council later in 1960.

Details of action taken

I give below a tabular statement setting out details of the action taken during the year:--

1. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	259
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	418
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations.	...	172
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	217
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	8
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	8

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 34

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

A - Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

- | | | |
|--|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | 2 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:- | | |
| (a) By owners | ... | 1 |
| (b) By Local Authorities in default of owners | ... | 0 |

B - Proceedings under Sections, 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service by formal notices:- | | |
| (a) By owners | ... | 0 |
| (b) By Local Authorities in default of owners | ... | 0 |

C - Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | 8 |
| (3) Number of written undertakings accepted | ... | 13 |

D - Proceedings under Sections 17, 19 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|---|
| (1) Number of Closing Orders made | ... | 0 |
|-----------------------------------|-----|---|

E - Proceedings under Section 24 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| (1) Number of Demolition Orders revoked | ... | 3 |
|---|-----|---|

F - Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- | | | |
|--|-----|---|
| (1) Number of Closing Orders revoked and Demolition Orders substituted | ... | 0 |
|--|-----|---|

G - Proceedings under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957:-		
(1) Number of houses in confirmed clearance areas demolished ...		11
H - Proceedings under Sections 34 and 53 of the Housing Act, 1957:-		
(1) Licences issued for temporary occupation ...		1
4. <u>Overcrowding - Part IV, Housing Act, 1957</u>		

No action was necessary during the year.

RENT ACT, 1957

The following action was taken during the year:-

(1) Number of applications for certificates of disrepair ...	3
(2) Number of Undertakings given by owners ...	1
(3) Number of certificates of disrepair issued ...	2
(4) Number of certificates of disrepair cancelled ...	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MEAT INSPECTION

Slaughtering was carried out regularly during the year at the Dunmow Bacon Factory and at the 8 private slaughterhouses in the District.

Carcasses inspected and condemned:

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1,946	37	145	3,682	53,534	*
Number inspected	1,946	37	145	3,682	53,534	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	1	2	7	116	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	68	4	2	18	11,286	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	3.49	13.51	2.75	.67	21.22	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	1	-	-	-	14	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	1	-	-	1,660	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.56	2.7	-	-	3.12	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

* Pigs which arrived dead or died in lairs were examined for scheduled diseases but were not inspected for food.

131 lbs. of carcase meat was condemned in Butcher's shops during the year.

The bulk of the meat inspected was for consumption outside the District. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food made a grant of £650 towards the cost of this work for the year.

Slaughter of Animals

The number of licences at the end of the year was:-

Private Slaughter-houses	...	9
Knackers' Yards	...	1
Licensed Slaughter-men	...	33

Slaughterhouses

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, under the Slaughter-houses Act, 1958, came into force on 1st January, 1959. A meeting was held in November with representatives of Meat Organisations and as a result the Council's report under The Slaughterhouses (Reports) Direction, 1959, was prepared. Details of this will be given in a future report.

Knackers' Yards

There was one knackers' yard in operation during the year, at Little Hallingbury. The statutory returns under the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, revealed that 32 horses were slaughtered during the year. In addition 193 cows were also slaughtered.

OTHER FOOD

During the year the following foodstuffs were found upon inspection in shops to be unfit for human consumption and were condemned:-

Fruit	21 tins	Potatoes	38 lbs
Grapefruit Juice	1 tin	Fish	5 tins
Milk	1 tin	Marmalade	1 tin
Vegetables	13 tins	Soup	3 tins
Bacon	93 lbs	Meat	17 tins

Game

7 persons were licensed under the Local Government Act, 1894, to deal in Game during the year.

Milk

29 inspections were made of the dairies in the district. 32 samples of milk were taken for analysis. The majority of these were taken in connection with a case of suspected Undulant Fever. The investigation proved that a cow belonging to one of the dairies in Thaxted was excreting Brucella Abortus organisms. Subsequent to the investigation the cow was sent for slaughter.

The remainder of the samples all proved satisfactory.

There were 18 persons registered in the District as Distributors of Milk, and 9 Dairies (not being Dairy Farms) were also registered.

Milk Dealers' licences were in force as under:-

to use special designation "Tuberculin tested"	...	12
to use special designation "Pasteurised"	...	12
to use special designation "Sterilised"	...	8

Supplementary licences:-

to use special designation "Tuberculin tested"	...	4
to use special designation "Pasteurised"	...	5
to use special designation "Sterilised"	...	4

Ice Cream

There were 100 premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the storage and sale of ice-cream in the District. 46 samples of ice cream were taken for analysis.

In the course of routine ice cream sampling during 1959, a batch of cream ice lollies was found to have faecal coli present in small quantities. The

manufacturer concerned was contacted but he was unable to offer any satisfactory explanation at that time, but promised that full investigation would be made at the factory. Further samples from this batch still showed the presence of faecal coli and on reporting this to the manufacturer they stated that the whole of that batch would be withdrawn from sale and replaced by the Company. All the retailers with this particular cream lolly in the district were visited and the batch was found at several of them. Formal notices were sent to these retailers stating that no lollies from that particular batch were to be sold for human consumption. The Public Health Authority concerned with the manufacturer's district was contacted and they made a full inspection at the factory and issued a report showing that the standards of hygiene were high and that strict control was kept over all the batches of the cream ice lolly manufactured. Eventually, the manufacturers withdrew all batches that had shown contamination in any degree and subsequent sampling showed that there were no faecal coli present.

The sampling of ice cream also involved investigation of a consignment delivered to a school canteen in this district. On investigation it was found that several large blocks did in fact show black specks on the surface. It was at first thought that these were caused in transit by containers that were not properly insulated for rail transport. The local representative of the firm concerned was contacted and he removed certain blocks of the ice cream for investigation by his head office. The Company were most concerned over the whole matter as upon their investigation it was found the particles consisted of lacquer and some finely divided aluminium, which were coming from freezing coils in a particular hardening tunnel. After defrosting the particles were capable of being dislodged and blown away from the coils by forced air draught. Once

the coils were frosted over the particles were held and not blown away. Once the cause had been ascertained, they took immediate steps to rectify the defect and trusted that we would have no cause for complaint in the future. In fact no further complaints were received.

No manufacture of ice cream was carried on in the District, and no action was required to be taken under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 - 52.

FOOD PREMISES

Bakehouses

The number of bakehouses at the end of the year in operation was 9, which is one less than in 1958. No unsatisfactory conditions existed. It is interesting to recall that in 1939 there were 20 bakehouses in use in the district.

Food Premises by type of Business

General Provisions	...	32
Bread and Confectionery	...	14
Grocers	...	20
Butchers	...	10
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	6
Fishmongers	...	4
Sweets and Tobacco	...	8
Cafes and Restaurants	...	16
Public Houses and Hotels	...	73
Works Canteens	...	5
Coffee Bars	...	1

Included in the above list are the following premises as registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

Fish Frying	...	5
-------------	-----	---

Manufacture or preparation
of sausages; pressed, pickled
and preserved food.

...

16

66 inspections of food premises were made during the year but no formal action was necessary.

FOOD HYGIENE

Inspections were carried out during the year under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and a number of informal approaches were made to certain of the food premises in the district.

No Clean Food Campaigns were carried out during the year.

The Council adopted Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, in 1951.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

The Bacon Factory at Dunmow disposes of condemned meat by digestion in steam vats to produce inedible fats; beef carcases are disposed of to Knackers for boiling down for inedible fats or fertilisers; smaller parts are burnt or buried.

No special arrangements for disposal of condemned food were necessary during the year.

WASTE FOOD

There were two premises licensed for the boiling of waste food for animal feeding, one at Fanns Farm, Takeley, and the other at Leaden Roding Piggeries. Powers for the inspection and licensing of waste food boiling plants under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957, have been delegated to the Council.

SHOPS

The inspection of shops under the Shops Act, 1950, was carried out during the year but no formal action was necessary. There were 176 shops entered in the Council's registers.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Council have established a daily instrument at Bran End, Stebbing, and two Lead Peroxide instruments at Cutlers Green, Thaxted, and at Little Canfield, and the work of recording was carried out throughout the year in co-operation with the Fuel Research Station.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

3 disinfections of private houses were carried out during the year. 38 visits of investigation were made into cases of infectious disease as follows:-

Dysentery	3
Tuberculosis	1
A.P.M. (not confirmed)	1
Scarlet Fever	2

This total includes 23 visits to cases of suspected food poisoning.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

4 premises were disinfested during the year after complaints of infestation by vermin. The standard form of treatment was spray with a 5 per cent solution of D.D.T., or Gammexane Smoke Generators.

Disinfestation of bedding was carried out as required at Braintree U.D.C's plant or at the Herts and Essex General Hospital at Bishop's Stortford.

AGRICULTURAL PREMISES

It was not possible to carry out any inspections of farms under the provisions of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956, during the year.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS

There are no premises in the District where rag flock is manufactured or where filling materials are used, under the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

PET ANIMALS

1 pet shop was licensed during the year, in Great Dunmow, under the Pet Animals Act, 1951.

HEATING APPLIANCES

No action was necessary during the year under the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952, Section 2 of which concerns the inspection and testing of appliances to see that they have the necessary fireguards.

RODENT CONTROL

The following are details of action taken under the Prevention of
Damage by Pests Act, 1949:-

Details (i)	Type of Property				
	Local Authority (ii)	Dwelling Houses (iii)	Agric- ultural (iv)	Business premises (v)	Total (vi)
Number of properties in Area	11	6,717	250 included in (iii)	497	7,225
Premises inspected as a result of notification	-	119	10	17	146
Premises inspected as a result of survey under the Act	11	5	-	-	16
Total number of inspections (including re-inspections)	12	287	18	34	351
Number of properties found to be infested with rats:					
Major infestations	-	-	-	-	-
Minor infestations	11	57	-	4	72
Number of properties found to be seriously infested with mice	-	11	-	-	11
Number of infested premises treated by the Council's Public Health Inspectors	11	68	-	4	83
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act	-	-	-	-	-

In addition to the above, treatments were carried out at the refuse tips at Merks Hill, Great Dunmow, which are privately owned.

Sewers

The Council's sewerage systems in Great Dunmow, Felsted and Thaxted were test baited during the year. Only one or two +races of rats were found.

Threshing of Stacks

No action was necessary during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks) Regulations, 1950.

FACTORIES

Particulars of the premises registered by the Council under the Factories Act, 1937, and of the inspections made are to be found as follows:-

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	45	19	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	74	8	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities (excluding out-workers premises)	-	1	-	-
Totals:	119	28	-	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperatures (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences (not including offences relating to out-workers)	1	1	-	-	-	
Totals:	6	6	-	-	-	

OUT-WORKERS

There are out-workers in the District as follows:-

Wearing Apparel	-	2
Christmas Crackers	-	2

MEANS OF ESCAPE FROM FIRE

1 certificate as to means of escape from fire was issued during the year.

The responsibility for the issue of these certificates has now passed to Fire Authorities under the Factories Act, 1959.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS
(Tents, Vans and Sheds)

At the end of the year, in addition to seasonal workers in agriculture, sites were used at:-

Parish	Sites	Vans	Tents	Huts	Adults	Children
Aythorpe Roding	2	3	1	1	6	4
Barnston	3	3	-	2	6	1
Broxted	1	1	-	-	1	-
Little Bardfield	1	1	-	-	1	-
Little Canfield	2	2	-	-	4	-
Little Dunmow	1	1	-	-	2	-
Great Dunmow	4	4	-	1	7	-
Great Easton	1	1	-	-	2	-
Felsted	7	7	-	-	14	2
Great Hallingbury	3	4	-	-	7	1
Hatfield Broad Oak	2	12	-	2	26	18
High Easter	3	3	-	-	5	-
Leaden Roding	2	2	-	-	3	-
Stebbing	4	4	-	-	8	2
Takeley	6	149	-	1	213	113
Thaxted	4	4	-	-	8	-
White Roding	3	4	1	1	8	4
Totals:	49	205	2	8	321	145

All the sites have access to main water supply. The sanitary accommodation is mainly chemical or earth closets with water closets on the larger sites.

The bulk of the vans are sited on the three sites adjoining Stansted Airport in the parish of Takeley.

The following table gives the location of those sites which contain
3 or more caravans:-

Caravan Sites

Location	Public Health Act		Planning Acts
	to use land	to use caravans	Planning permission
The Mount, Coopers End, Takeley	20	20	20
Connought Carapark, Coopers End, Takeley	-	50	50
Stansted Caravan estate, Takeley	50	75	75
Waggon & Horses, Hatfield Heath	--	7	7
Home Farm, Stebbing	3 caravans 1 hut	-	-
Hawspur Green, Little Bardfield	2 caravans 6 tents	-	-
Daviron, Lindsell	-	-	6 caravans 12 tents
High Wood, Dunmow	-	-	6 (Mar. to Oct.)
Stonebridge Meadow, Hatfield Heath	3 caravans 3 tents	5 caravans 2 huts	-
The Waterings, Stebbing	17	-	-
Brewers End, Takeley	4	-	- (Pre-licensing)
Stebbing Green, Stebbing	-	-	- (Pre-licensing)

The numbers shown are those for which the sites are licensed and not the number of caravans which are on the sites at the present time.

OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS

Protection of Birds

No action was necessary under Section 12 (4) of the Protection of Birds Act, 1954, which concerns bird sanctuaries.

Public Conveniences

Public Conveniences owned by the Council are situated in Great Dunmow and Thaxted. An income of £80 was received from them during the year, and the total expenditure was £270 leaving a nett deficit of £190.

Burial of the Dead

The burial of 2 persons was arranged during the year under the provisions of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. A total of 16 burials has been arranged by this Council since the passing of the Act.

The Burial Acts 1852 - 1906 have not been adopted by any parish in the District.

Petroleum and Carbide of Calcium

At the end of the year there were 141 licences issued for the storage of petroleum (including 34 filling stations), and 6 licences for the storage of Carbide of Calcium. The testing of underground tanks which have been installed for more than 20 years continued during the year.

Naming and Numbering Streets

The old street nameplates in Great Dunmow were replaced during the year and additional ones erected where necessary.

Street Lighting

Street lighting powers under the Parish Councils Act, 1957, are held by Barnston, Felsted, Great Dunmow and Thaxted, and Great Hallingbury for part of that parish. Also Little Dunmow took street lighting powers during the year.

Litter

Negotiations were still in progress during the year for the acquisition of litter containers for the district.

BYELAWS

The following is a list of the Council's Byelaws now in force:-

Byelaws for securing cleanliness in premises of hairdressers or barbers.

Byelaws with respect to houses occupied by persons of the working classes.

Byelaws with respect to new streets.

Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.

Building Byelaws.

Byelaws for the sanitary conditions and management of private slaughterhouses.

Byelaws for preventing waste, undue consumption, misuse or contamination of water.

Byelaws relating to sanitary conditions, management and keeping of records for Knackers' Yards.

Byelaws for the protection of water fittings from effect of frost.

Byelaws for smoke prevention.

The Council also resolved to make amendments to their Building Byelaws concerning Thermal Insulation and Flue Pipes during the year.

NEW LEGISLATION

The following Acts affecting the duties of the Council received the Royal Assent during the year:-

Factories Act, 1959.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Housing (Underground Rooms) Act, 1959.

Landlord and Tenant (Furniture and Fittings) Act, 1959.

Rating and Valuation Act, 1959.

Town and Country Planning Act, 1959.

